



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FORMER MESA RESIDENT SENTENCED FOR IMPERSONATING A FEDERAL OFFICER

PHOENIX – Orlando A. Hotusing, Jr., 50, formerly of Mesa, Ariz., and currently of Homestead, Fla., was sentenced here today on two counts - impersonation of a federal officer and detention by a person impersonating a federal officer. U.S. District Court Judge James A. Teilborg sentenced Hotusing to four years of federal probation, including one year of electronic monitoring and home confinement, plus 100 hours of community service.

In February 2006, while working in his capacity as security guard for the Village in the Pines Apartments in Mesa, Ariz, Hotusing falsely pretended to be a U.S. Federal Air Marshal and attempted to detain someone who appeared to break into an apartment at the complex. Due to a brief altercation between the two, Mesa Police Officers were contacted and responded to the scene. During that time Hotusing, showed counterfeit identification and a badge which identified him as a Federal Air Marshal.

Mesa Police subsequently arrested the intruder and charged him with assault on a law enforcement officer. During a subsequent investigation by the Mesa Police Department, they determined that Hotusing was not an employee of the Federal Air Marshal Service but that his son was a Federal Air Marshal assigned to the Miami Field Office.

Hotusing fled Arizona for south Florida and was arrested in Miami in August 2006 after the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, Office of Inspection & Investigations Unit in Phoenix took over the investigation. The investigation determined that at no time did Hotusing enter a U.S. Airport controlled by the TSA or a commercial aircraft using his counterfeit credentials.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, Office of Inspection and Investigations. The prosecution was handled by Charles Hyder, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-530-PHX-JAT
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